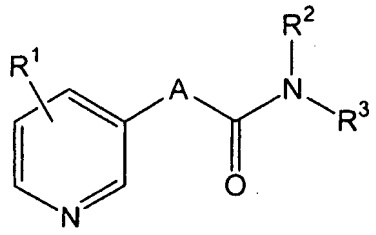
Amendments to the Claims:

1-14 Canceled.

15. (new) A method of inhibiting or reducing angiogenesis in a mammal comprising administering a compound of Formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



I

wherein:

A is selected from the group consisting of the group members C_{1-10}-alkylene, C_{2-10}-alkenylene, and C_{2-10}-alkinylene, which group members may be optionally substituted by one, two or three groups independently selected from C_{1-3}-alkyl, fluoro, chloro, and bromo;

R^1 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, and perfluoro-C_{1-3}-alkyl;

R^2 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, and C_{2-6}-alkenyl; and

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of the group members C_{1-6}-alkyl, (C_{5-8}-cycloalkyl)-C_{1-6}-alkyl, (C_{5-8}-heterocyclyl)-C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkyl (C_{5-8}-heterocyclyl)-C_{1-6}-alkyl, and C_{1-5}-alkylcarbonyl (C_{5-8}-heterocyclyl)-C_{1-6}-alkyl, which group members may be optionally substituted by one, two or three groups independently selected from C_{1-6}-alkyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, oxo, perfluoro-C_{1-3}-alkyl, aryl, arylcarbonyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylcarbonyl, C_{5-8}-cycloalkyl and C_{5-8}-heterocyclyl.

16. (new) The method of claim 15, wherein A is selected from ethylene, n-propylene, i-propylene, n-butylene, ethenylene, 1-propenylene, 1-butenylene, 2-butenylene, and ethinylene.

17. (new) The method of claim 15, wherein R^1 is selected from hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, fluoro, and trifluoromethyl.

18. (new) The method of claim 15, wherein R^2 is selected from hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, and ethenyl.

19. (new) The method of claim 15, wherein R^3 is selected from the group consisting of cyclopentyl-C_{1-6}-alkyl, cyclohexyl-C_{1-6}-alkyl, pyrrolidinyl-C_{1-6}-alkyl, piperidinyl-C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkyl-piperidinyl-C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-5}-alkylcarbonyl piperidinyl-C_{1-6}-alkyl, piperazinyl-C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkyl-piperazinyl-C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-5}-alkylcarbonyl-piperazinyl-C_{1-6}-alkyl, and morpholinyl-C_{1-6}-alkyl, which members may be optionally substituted by one, two or three groups independently selected from C_{1-6}-alkyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, oxo, perfluoro-C_{1-3}-alkyl, aryl, arylcarbonyl, heteroaryl, C_{5-8}-cycloalkyl, and C_{5-8}-heterocyclyl.

20. (new) The method of claim 15, wherein R^3 is selected from the group consisting of:
cyclohexyl-C_{1-6}-alkyl, piperidinyl-C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkyl piperidinyl-C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-5}-alkylcarbonyl-piperidinyl- C_{1-6}-alkyl, piperazinyl-C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkyl-piperazinyl-C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-5}-alkylcarbonyl-piperazinyl-C_{1-6}-alkyl, which members may be optionally substituted by one, two or three groups independently selected from butyl, pentyl, hexyl, fluoro, oxo, phenyl, biphenyl, benzyl, pyridyl, pyrrolyl, benzoyl, thiophenyl, furyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, and piperidinyl.

21. (new) The method of claim 15, wherein R^3 is selected from the group consisting of
(1-acetyl-piperidin-4-yl)-butyl,

(1-diphenylacetyl-piperidin-4-yl)-butyl,

[1- (3,3-diphenylpropionyl)-piperidin-4-yl)butyl,

(1-benzoyl-piperidin-4-yl)-ethyl,

(1-benzoyl-piperidin-4-yl)-propyl,

(1-benzoyl-piperidin-4-yl)-butyl,

(1-benzoyl-piperidin-4-yl)-pentyl,

(1-benzoyl-piperidin-4-yl)-hexyl,

(1-benzylpiperidin-4-yl)-butyl,

(1-diphenylmethyl-piperidin-4-yl)-methyl,

(1-diphenylmethyl-piperidin-4-yl)-ethyl,

(1-diphenylmethyl-piperidin-4-yl)-propyl,

(1-diphenylmethyl-piperidin-4-yl)-butyl,

(1-diphenylmethyl-piperidin-4-yl)-pentyl,

(1-diphenylmethyl-piperidin-4-yl)-hexyl,

(4-phenyl-piperidin-1-yl)-butyl,

(4, 4-diphenyl-piperidin-1-yl)-butyl,

(1-benzoyl-2,6-dioxo-piperidin-4-yl)-butyl,

(2, 6-dioxo-3-phenyl-piperidin-1-yl)-butyl,

(2, 6-dioxo-4-phenyl-piperidin-1-yl)-butyl,

(4-phenyl-piperazin-1-yl)-butyl,

(4-phenyl-piperazin-1-yl)-pentyl,

(4-phenyl-piperazin-1-yl)-hexyl,

(4-diphenylacetyl-piperazin-1-yl)-butyl,

(4-benzoylpiperazin-1-yl)-butyl, and

(4-benzyl-2,6-dioxo-piperazin-1-yl)-butyl.

22. The method of claim 15, wherein the compound of Formula I is selected from the group consisting of:

N-[4-(1-acetyl-piperidin-4-yl)-butyl]-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-propionamide,

N-[4-(1-acetyl-piperidin-4-yl)-butyl]-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-acrylamide,

N-[4-(1-diphenylacetyl-piperidin-4-yl)-butyl]-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-acrylamide,

N- [4-(1-diphenylacetyl-piperidin-4-yl)-butyl]-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-propionamide,

N-(4-[1-(3,3-diphenylpropionyl)-piperidin-4-yl)-butyl]3-(pyridin-3-yl)-acrylamide,

N-[3-(1-benzoyl-piperidin-4-yl)-propyl]-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-propionamide,

N-[4-(1-benzoyl-piperidin-4-yl)-butyl]-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-propionamide,

N-[6-(1-benzoyl-piperidin-4-yl)-hexyl]-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-propionamide,

N-(2-[1-benzoyl-piperidin-4-yl)-ethyl]-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-acrylamide,

N-[4-(1-benzoyl-piperidin-4-yl)-butyl]-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-acrylamide,

N-[6-(1-benzoyl-piperidin-4-yl)-hexyl]-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-acrylamide,

N-[4-(1-benzoyl-piperidin-4-yl)-butyl]-5-(pyridin-3-yl)-2,4-pentadienoic acid amide,

N-[4-(4-benzoyl-piperidin-1-yl)-butyl]-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-acrylamide,

N-[4-(4-benzoyl-piperidin-1-yl)-butyl]-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-propionamide,

N-[4-(1-benzylpiperidin-4-yl)-butyl]-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-propionamide,

N-[4-(1-diphenylmethyl-piperidin-4-yl)-butyl]-3-(2 fluoropyridin-3-yl)-propionamide,

N-[4-(1-diphenylmethyl-piperidin-4-yl)-butyl]-3-(5-fluoropyridin-3-yl)-propionamide,

N-[4-(1-diphenylmethyl-piperidin-4-yl)-butyl]-2-fluoro-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-propionamide,

N-[4-(1-diphenylmethyl-piperidin-4-yl)-butyl]-2,2-difluoro-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-propionamide,

N-[5-(1-diphenylmethyl-piperidin-4-yl)-pentyl]-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-propionamide,

N- [6-(1-diphenylmethyl-piperidin-4-yl)-hexyl]-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-propionamide,

N-[2-(1-diphenylmethyl-piperidin-4-yl)-ethyl]-5-(pyridin-3-yl)-pentanoic acid amide,

N-[4-(1-diphenylmethyl-piperidin-4-yl)-butyl]-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-propionamide,

N-[4-(1-diphenylmethyl-piperidin-4-yl)-butyl]-5-(pyridin-3-yl)-pentanoic acid amide,

N-[2-(1-diphenylmethylpiperidin-4-yl)-ethyl]-5-(pyridin-3-yl)-2,4-pentadienoic acid amide,

N-[4-(1-diphenylmethylpiperidin-4-yl)-butyl]-5-(pyridin-3-yl)-2,4-pentadienoic acid amide,

N-[5-(l-diphenylmethylpiperidin-4-yl)-pentyl]-5-(pyridin-3-yl)-2,4-pentadienoic acid amide,

N-[6-(l-diphenylmethylpiperidin-4-yl)-hexyl]-5-(pyridin-3-yl)-2,4-pentadienoic acid amide,

N-[4-(4-phenyl-piperidin-1-yl)-butyl]-3-pyridin-3-yl-acrylamide,

N- [4-(4,4-diphenyl-piperidin-1-yl)-butyl]-3-pyridin-3-yl-acrylamide,

N-[4-(1-benzoyl-2,6-dioxo-piperidin-4-yl)-butyl]-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-acrylamide,

N-[4-(2,6-dioxo-3-phenyl-piperidin-1-yl)-butyl]-3-pyridin-3-yl-acrylamide,

N-[4-(2,6-dioxo-4-phenyl-piperidin-1-yl)-butyl]-3-pyridin-3-yl-acrylamide,

N-[4- (4-benzoyl-piperazin-1-yl)-butyl]-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-acrylamide,

N-[4-(4-benzoyl-piperazin-1-yl)-butyl]-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-propionamide,

N-[4-(4-diphenylacetyl-piperazin-1-yl)-butyl]-3-pyridin-3-yl-acrylamide,

N-[4-(4-diphenylmethyl-piperazin-1-yl)-butyl]-3-pyridin-3-yl-propionamide,

N-[5-(4-diphenylmethyl-piperazin-1-yl)-pentyl]-3-pyridin-3-yl-acrylamide,

N-[6-(4-diphenylmethyl-piperazin-1-yl)-hexyl]-3-pyridin-3-yl-acrylamide,

N-[4-(4-diphenylmethyl-piperazin-1-yl)-butyl]-2-(pyridin-3-yl)-propionamide,

N-[4-(4-diphenylmethyl-piperazin-1-yl)-butyl]-5-(pyridin-3-yl)-penta-2,4-dienoic acid amide, and

N-[4-(4-benzyl-2,6-dioxo-piperazin-1-yl)-butyl]-3-pyridin-3-yl-acrylamide.

23. (new) A method of treating a disease or medical condition in a mammal which disease or medical condition responds to inhibition or reduction of angiogenesis, comprising administering a compound of claim 15 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

24. (new) The method of claim 23, wherein the disease or medical condition is selected from rheumatoid arthritis, inflammatory disorder, macular degeneration, psoriasis, retinopathy, preneoplastic lesions, and hyperplasia.

25. (new) The method of claim 24, wherein the disease or medical condition is selected from age-related macular degeneration, proliferative retinopathy, diabetic retinopathy, benign prostatic hyperplasia and venous neointimal hyperplasia.

26. (new) A method of treating a disease or medical condition in a mammal which disease or medical condition responds to inhibition or reduction of VEGF production, comprising administering a compound of claim 15 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

27. (new) A method of in vitro diagnosis of a disease or medical condition, which is selected from rheumatoid arthritis, inflammatory disorder, psoriasis, retinopathy, preneoplastic lesions, and hyperplasia, the method comprising obtaining a tumor from a warm blooded animal host, and implanting the tumor into mice to determine the decrease in growth after treatment with the compound of claim 15.

28. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the disease or medical condition is selected from proliferative retinopathy, diabetic retinopathy, benign prostatic hyperplasia, and venous neointimal hyperplasia.

29. (new) A method of treating or preventing a disease or medical condition which disease or medical condition is selected from rheumatoid arthritis, inflammatory disorder; macular degeneration, psoriasis, retinopathy, preneoplastic lesions, and hyperplasia, the method comprising administering a pharmaceutical composition to a human or animal in need thereof, wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises one or more of the compounds of Formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as defined according to claim 15, optionally together with (a) pharmaceutically acceptable carrier(s), (a) toxicologically safe adjuvant(s), and/or in combination with other active ingredients.

30. (new) The method of claim 29, wherein the disease or medical condition is selected from age-related macular degeneration, proliferative retinopathy, diabetic retinopathy, benign prostatic hyperplasia and venous neointimal hyperplasia.